Release of funds for strengthening nursing schools

2352. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 proposals for Central assistance of Rs. 10 lakh in each case for strengthening of existing nursing schools and colleges in the State of Karnataka are pending with the centre since September, 2007 for clearance and release of funds; and

(b) if so, by when the proposals are likely to be cleared and funds released?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) 14 proposals were received from the State of Karnataka for strengthening of existing schools and colleges of nursing. Funds have been released to 6 institutions and remaining 8 proposals would be considered only after receiving the necessary Utilization Certificate and statement of Expenditure from these Institutions.

NCHRH

2353. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated steps for setting up of National Council for Human Resources in Health (NCHRH);

(b) whether the proposed Regulatory Body, NCHRH is to usher in reforms in Medical Education Sector by super-seeding the present regulatory bodies like Medical Council of India, Nursing Council of India, Dental Council of India, Pharmacy Council of India, etc.; that have so far failed to deliver; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) This Ministry has proposed to set up a National Council for Human Resources in Health as an overarching regulatory body for the health sector to reform the current regulatory framework and enhance supply of skilled personnel. A Task Force under the chairmanship of Union Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) has been constituted to deliberate upon the issue of setting up the proposed National Council. The Task Force shall submit its report to the Ministry by 31st July, 2009.

Unwillingness of doctors to work in the rural areas

2354. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that doctors are not willing to work in the rural areas on one pretext or the other;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the people in the rural areas do not get adequate medical treatment; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to solve this crucial problem?